IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

AMENDMENT "A"

APPLICANTS:	Dirk ROSENAU et al.	GROUP ART UNIT: 3621
SERIAL NO.:	09/593,406	EXAMINER: Abdi Kambiz
FILED:	June 14, 2000	CONFIRMATION NO.: 8262
TITLE:	"ARRAMGEMENT AND METHOD FOR GENERATING A SECURITY IMPRINT"	

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,

Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R:

In response to the Office Action dated August 28, 2002, Applicants herewith amend the application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The paragraph beginning at page 6, line 4 has been amended as follows:

The inventive time/control diagram (shown in Figure 1b) for a postage meter machine requires a data processing time duration T_{new} per franking with a security imprint that is shorter than the old data processing time duration T_{old} per franking. This is possible only because a division of tasks for two data processing units occurs in the invention, whereby a microprocessor is provided in the meter for the printing tasks and a security module is provided for the security tasks.

The paragraph beginning at page 7, line 7 has been amended as follows:

Inventively, the microprocessor stills works on formatting the print image (step 404) or is occupied with the implementation of the print routine (step 405) while the report 412 of a further letter pending ensues to the security module, whereupon the latter already implements further calculations 316-321 for a next piece of mail (letter).

The paragraph beginning at page 7, line 11 has been amended as follows: